

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

LINA, Cesar Z. et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filed: 10/16/97

Title: WOUND THERAPY DEVICE AND

**RELATED METHODS** 

Group Art Unit: 3308

Examiner: RUHL, D.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Box FWC Assistant Comm'r for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with Applicant's duty of candor and good faith, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner is requested to consider the following references and related information, submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, and thereafter make this entire disclosure "of record" in the file wrapper of the above-captioned application. A Form PTO-1449 is submitted herewith for the Examiner's convenience.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" 37 C.F.R. § 1.10

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No: <u>EM226165577US</u> Date of Deposit: 10/16/97

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

10/16/97

Signature of Person Mailing

Printed Name of Person Mailing

## DISCLOSURE OF REFERENCES AND RELATED INFORMATION

Although disclosed, nothing herein is intended as an admission of the character of any reference, or related information, as "prior art" to the invention of the above-captioned application or as being material to the examination of the same. Disclosure at this time is only intended to establish an incontrovertible showing of Applicant's full candor and good faith; under no circumstance should disclosure herein imply "materiality to patentability" as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In compliance with Applicant's duty, the following references and related information are now disclosed:

## U.S. Patent Documents:

Patentee	Patent Number	Issue Date
Stevens	3,026,874	03/1962
Svedman	4,382,441	05/1983
Van Overloop	4,540,412	09/1985
Zamierowski	4,969,880	11/1990
Ferdman et al.	5,149,331	09/1992

## Related Information:

Applicant has recently discovered that domestic priority for the above-captioned application, as presently claimed, is *not* perfected. There appears to be a break in the copendency requirement with respect to application Serial No. 08/293,854 filed August 22, 1994 and application Serial No. 08/517,901 filed August 22, 1995. Although petitions are now pending before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for the revival of application Serial No. 08/293,854, for the purpose of perfecting this chain of priority, and Applicant has a reasonable expectation that these petitions will be granted, Applicant can at this time only claim priority to an earliest filing date of August 22, 1995.

All of the references, and related information, herein above disclosed are believed to be related at least to the broad field of art to which the invention of the present application pertains, although some references may be more pertinent than others. Although disclosed, nothing herein is intended as an admission of the character of any reference as "prior art" to the invention of the above-captioned application. In any case, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner make careful consideration of all that is disclosed for whatever relevance may actually exist.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

16 Oct 97

KINETIC CONCEPTS, INC. P.O. Box 659508 San Antonio, Texas 78265-9508

Telephone: 210 255 4545 Telecopier: 210 255-4450 William H. Quirk, IV Registration No. 33,996